

Disinfection Byproducts Rule (DBPR) to provide greater protection against risks associated with microbial pathogens and disinfection byproducts in drinking water. The Committee provided consensus recommendations for the LT2ESWTR and Stage 2 DBPR in September 2000, as stated in an Agreement in Principle (65 FR 83015, December 29, 2000). In this meeting, EPA will inform the Committee regarding the status of development of the LT2ESWTR and Stage 2 DBPR.

Dated: November 25, 2002.

Cynthia C. Dougherty,

Director, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water.

[FR Doc. 02-30461 Filed 11-29-02; 8:45 am]

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[FRL-7414-9]

Meeting of the National Drinking Water Advisory Council

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

ACTION: Notice of public meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with section 10(a)(2) of Public Law 92-423, "The Federal Advisory Committee Act," notice is hereby given of the forthcoming conference call meeting of the National Drinking Water Advisory Council (Council), established under the Safe Drinking Water Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. 300f *et seq.*). The Council will discuss underground injection control with respect to the practice of hydraulic fracturing for coal-bed methane production.

DATES: The meeting will be held on December 12, 2002, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., Eastern Standard Time.

ADDRESSES: Council members will teleconference into Room 2123 of the EPA East building, which is physically located at 1201 Constitution Avenue, NW, Washington, DC. A limited number of additional phone lines may be available for members of the public who are outside of the Washington DC metropolitan commuting area and are unable to attend in person. Any additional teleconferencing lines that are available will be reserved on a first-come, first-serve basis by the Designated Federal Officer.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Members of the public who would like to attend the meeting, present an oral statement, submit a written statement in advance, or make arrangements to teleconference into the meeting should

contact Brenda Johnson, Designated Federal Officer, National Drinking Water Advisory Council, by December 6, 2002. Ms. Johnson can be reached at (202) 564-3791; by e-mail at johnson.brendap@epa.gov, or by regular mail at U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water (M/C 4601M), 1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20460.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Council encourages the public's input and will allocate a portion of the meeting for this purpose. To ensure adequate time for public involvement, oral statements will be limited to five minutes, and it is preferred that only one person present the statement on behalf of a group or organization. Any person who wishes to file a written statement can do so before or after a Council meeting. Written statements received prior to the meeting will be distributed to all members of the Council before any final discussion or vote is completed. Any statements received after the meeting will become part of the permanent meeting file and will be forwarded to the Council members for their information.

Dated: November 25, 2002.

Cynthia C. Dougherty,

Director, Office of Ground Water and Drinking Water.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

[OPP-2002-0311; FRL-7283-7]

Endangered Species Protection Program Field Implementation

AGENCY: Environmental Protection Agency (EPA or Agency).

ACTION: Notice of proposed field implementation approach and request for comment.

SUMMARY: EPA's Office of Pesticide Programs is describing, and requesting comment on, implementation of its Endangered Species Protection Program (ESPP, or the Program). The goal of the ESPP is to carry out responsibilities under the Federal Insecticide, Fungicide, and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) in compliance with the Endangered Species Act (ESA), while at the same time not placing unnecessary burden on agriculture and other pesticide users. This Notice describes how EPA proposes to implement its responsibilities under section 7(a)(2) of ESA by completing and upgrading

County Bulletins, amending pesticide labels to reference County Bulletins, and enhancing monitoring programs.

Regulations found at 50 CFR part 402 acknowledge that there may be Federal programs for which revisions to standard regulatory processes could result in more effective and efficient coordination among Federal agencies and thus, more effective and efficient protection of listed species. As such, those regulations (50 CFR part 402) allow Federal agencies to establish alternate procedures, applicable to specific Federal programs, for satisfying the provisions of ESA section 7(a)(2). Those alternate procedures are known as counterpart regulations.

Through a separate Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (ANPR) to be issued on or about the same date as this Notice, EPA, the Department of the Interior (DOI), and the Department of Commerce (DOC) are seeking public input on ways that such counterpart regulations could improve the ESA consultation process with respect to pesticide registrations. Similarly, implementing regulations under FIFRA may be revised to ensure a more effective program.

The docket for this Notice (docket identification number OPP-2002-0311) includes a summary of the current technical review and consultation approaches employed by the Agency, and the standard evaluation procedure used for ecological risk assessments. That information has been subject to public comment in the past, has been used during EPA's Interim Endangered Species Protection Program, and will continue to be used until the Agency, DOI and DOC take comment on these aspects of the Program through the ANPR and modify them as appropriate.

DATES: Comments, identified by docket ID number OPP-2002-0311, must be received on or before March 3, 2003.

ADDRESSES: Comments may be submitted electronically, by mail, or through hand delivery/courier. Follow the detailed instructions as provided in Unit I. of this Notice.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mary Powell, Field and External Affairs Division (7506C), Office of Pesticide Programs, Environmental Protection Agency, 1200 Pennsylvania Ave., NW., Washington, DC 20460; telephone number: (703) 305-7384; fax number: (703) 308-3259; e-mail address: powell.mary@epa.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This Notice is organized into four units. Unit I. provides general information about applicability of this Notice, availability of additional information, and how to